

REMARKS

Claims 8-17 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected the Claims as follows. Claims 8-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,678,732 (Mouko) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,006,272 (Aravamudan).

Mouko teaches a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server which dynamically allocates Internet Protocol (IP) addresses to client devices, to which host names are given, connected to a Transmission Control Protocol/ IP (TCP/IP) network, and an IP address allocating method using the same. More specifically, Mouko teaches a server allocates an IP address to each client who is one of a plurality of clients connected to the TCP/IP network on a local area network (LAN), using a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP). Mouko further teaches before an IP address is allocated by a DHCP function, the DHCP client (e.g., client “a”) cannot unicast because there is no IP address. In other words, it is implied that a server allocates an IP address to a client device and that before the IP address is assigned to the client device, the client device does not have an IP address. Furthermore, Mouko teaches the allocated IP address is temporarily allocated and that “[i]t is indispensable to define the host name of the client ‘a’ in an option area of this [i.e., the DHCPDISCOVER] message” (Column 6, Lines 17-19). This clearly illustrates that the client devices do not have an IP address before the (temporary) IP address is assigned and that the host name of the client is used for

identification and that only a single (temporary) IP address is assigned to each device.

Regarding the rejection of independent Claim 8, the Examiner states that the combination of Mouko and Aravamudan teaches each and every limitation of Claim 8. More specifically, the Examiner states that Mouko teaches (in column 2, lines 53-58) the recitation of upon receipt of a packet from the LAN device, determining whether the origination party's IP address of the packet is registered in the unique IP address allocation table, as recited in Claim 8. After reviewing the cited references, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner is incorrect.

As discussed above, Mouko discloses a server allocating an IP address to a client device and implies that before the IP address is assigned to the client device, the client device does not have an IP address. Moreover, the passage cited by the Examiner to support his rejection of the subject limitations (i.e., column 2, lines 53-58) states: “[t]he host management database registers host names of the plural clients, and the sent host name is checked by comparing the host name sent from the client with the registered host names to confirm whether or not any one of the registered host names is perfectly coincident to the host name sent by the client.” In other words, host names (as opposed to an IP address) such as “ABCD0001” and “ABCD” (e.g., see, column 5, lines 60-65) are merely compared to determine whether any of the registered host names matches the list (i.e., is “coincident”) (e.g., see, column 2, lines 53-58). Thus, if a host name matches the list, the DHCP server knows that it manages the host (e.g., see, Client a and Server A in

in FIG. 17) and sends an acknowledgment (e.g., see, DHCPACK, FIG. 17 and Column 6, Lines 47-51).

In contrast, Claim 8 includes the recitation of upon receipt of a packet from the LAN device, determining whether the origination party's IP address of the packet is registered in the unique IP address allocation table, which is neither taught nor suggested by Mouko. Additionally, it is noted that the received packet is sent using an IP address (i.e., is performed after an IP address is assigned). As Aravamudan, which teaches a method for translating non Internet unique addresses of a home network device to an Internet unique address for Internet communication through a router, does not cure the deficiencies of Mouko, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) of Claim 8 be withdrawn.

Regarding the rejection of independent Claim 14, this Claim includes similar recitations as those contained in Claim 8. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 14 is allowable for at least the same reasons as those set forth above with respect to the rejection of Claim 8.

Regarding the rejection of independent Claim 10, the Examiner states that Mouko teaches the recitation of a LAN device, connected to a router, for sending a request for a unique IP address allocation to the router, when an Internet application is started and it is determined that it is necessary to use a unique IP address, performing the application after

receiving an allocated unique IP address from the router, transmitting to the router a packet to be transmitted to the Internet by using an origination party's IP address as the LAN device's own LAN IP address, and returning the allocated unique IP address to the router after using the allocated unique IP address; and the router, connected to the LAN device, for receiving the request for the unique IP address from the LAN device and allocating a non-used unique IP address of a plurality of unique IP addresses to the LAN device.

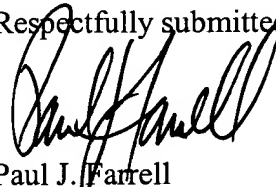
It is respectfully submitted that Mouko does not teach or suggest at least the recitation of a LAN device, connected to a router, for sending a request for a unique IP address allocation to the router, when an Internet application is started and it is determined that it is necessary to use a unique IP address, performing the application after receiving an allocated unique IP address from the router, and transmitting to the router a packet to be transmitted to the Internet by using an origination party's IP address as the LAN device's own LAN IP address, as recited in Claim 10. As this deficiency is not cured by Aravamudan, which teaches a method for translating non Internet unique addresses of a home network device to an Internet unique address for Internet communication through a router, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) of Claim 10 be withdrawn.

Independent Claims 8, 10, and 14 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 9, 11 –13, and 15-17,

these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claims 9, 11 –13, and 15-17 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 8-17, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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